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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/686,353	10/14/2003	Robert E. Boyd	066491-007	6700
7590 Theodore D. Lienesch Thompson Hine LLP 2000 Courthouse Plaza NE 10 West Second Street Dayton, OH 45402-1758		03/12/2007	EXAMINER MOHANDESI, JILA M	
			ART UNIT 3728	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		03/12/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/686,353

Applicant(s)

BOYD ET AL.

Examiner

Jila M. Mohandesi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE 02/20/2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,8,9,11,17-27,32-35 and 37-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,8,9,11,17-27,32-35 and 37-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/20/2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

4. Claims 1-3, 8-9, 11, 17-27, 32-35 and 37-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hardt (Pub. No. US 2002/0092203) in view of Holden et al. (US 7,020,988). Hardt discloses an insole comprising an insole material (polymeric

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foam sheet material 22 with a hardness from about 40 to about 65 on "00" shore Hardness scale); a first elastomeric pad (polyurethane elastomeric gel plug 26 with a shore "00" hardness in the range of from about 20 to about 60) attached to the insole material and positioned to contact a metatarsus section of a foot; and a second elastomeric pad (polyurethane elastomeric gel plug 24 with a shore "00" hardness in the range of from about 20 to about 60) attached to the insole material and positioned to contact a heel portion of a foot; the first and second pads being horizontally distinct from one another. Hardt discloses that the insole and the first and second pads having a rebound property, the rebound of the first and second pad differing from the rebound of the insole. However, Hardt does not appear to disclose the rebound of the first pad differing from the rebound of the second pad. Holden discloses a midsole/insole with first and second pad where the rebound of the first pad differing from the rebound rate of the second pad to provide the feet of a wearer with enhanced protection against extreme landing impacts occurring during certain strenuous athletic activities engaged in by the wearer, such as jumping. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the rebound of the first pad different from the rebound of the second pad as taught by Holden to provide the feet of a wearer with enhanced protection against extreme landing impacts occurring during certain strenuous athletic activities engaged in by the wearer, such as jumping.

The rebound of an article may be tuned to meet the needs of a particular user and/or a particular activity.

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5. Claims 1-3, 8-9, 11, 17-27, 32-35 and 37-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hardt (Pub. No. US 2002/0092203) in view of Santiyanont et al. (US 5,218,056). Hardt discloses an insole comprising an insole material (polymeric foam sheet material 22 with a hardness from about 40 to about 65 on "00" shore Hardness scale); a first elastomeric pad (polyurethane elastomeric gel plug 26 with a shore "00" hardness in the range of from about 20 to about 60) attached to the insole material and positioned to contact a metatarsus section of a foot; and a second elastomeric pad (polyurethane elastomeric gel plug 24 with a shore "00" hardness in the range of from about 20 to about 60) attached to the insole material and positioned to contact a heel portion of a foot; the first and second pads being horizontally distinct from one another. Hardt discloses that the insole and the first and second pads having a rebound property, the rebound of the first and second pad differing from the rebound of the insole. However, Hardt does not appear to disclose the rebound of the first pad differing from the rebound of the second pad. Santiyanont discloses a midsole/insole with first and second pad where the rebound of the first pad differing from the rebound rate of the second pad to provide a variable yet large range of cushioning effects, which is necessary for use in different sports activity (see column 4, lines 63-68 and column 5, lines 1-4 and table 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the rebound of the first pad different from the rebound of the second pad as taught by Santiyanont to provide a variable yet large range of cushioning effects, which is necessary for use in different sports activity.

The rebound of an article may be tuned to meet the needs of a particular user and/or a particular activity.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 8-9, 11, 17-27, 32-35 and 37-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jila M. Mohandesi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4558. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:00 (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN. USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jila M Mohandesi

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Primary Examiner
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JMM
March 07, 2007